

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Defence have agreed in principle and offered 4 pieces of vacant lands admeasuring 0.0691 acres near the proposed over-bridge, 0.7461 acres falling under the same, 1.5 acres in the north of over-bridge and 2.33 acres located east of the railway line on payment of current market value. The State Government also accepted the offer of the land. But the State Government later on expressed their inability to adhere to conditions of the offer and has requested to transfer the lands as per changed alignment marked in the plan forwarded by them. This request has not been accepted on security grounds and the State Government has again been requested to convey the acceptance of offer of the land as per earlier agreed alignment for issue of Government sanction for transfer of the land.

[Translation]

Foreign Universities

506 SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether any proposal to allow foreign universities to function in India is under consideration of the Government

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SARKIA) : (a) to (c) At present, there is no policy to regulate the functioning of foreign universities in the country. However, necessary guidelines for regulation of foreign educational institutions are being framed.

[English]

Nuclear Programme of Pakistan

507 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY
SHRI PINAKI MISRA
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA
SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH
SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to US Press reports during the first week

of April, 1996 regarding acquisition of materials and blue prints for building nuclear bombs by Pakistan from foreign sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether China is extending its help to Pakistan in the development of latter's nuclear programme;

(d) if so, whether Pakistan is carrying on its nuclear programme for the development of sophisticated nuclear weapons;

(e) if so, whether the Government have urged upon the Chinese Government to refrain themselves from such activities;

(f) if so, when and the reaction of Chinese Government thereto; and

(g) the steps the Government propose to take to defend the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Government have been following reports on Pakistan's acquisition of 5,000 specialised ring magnets from China for use in gas centrifuges to enrich uranium for nuclear weapons. Government remains concerned about the clandestine nuclear weapons programme of Pakistan. Our views regarding supplies of critical nuclear technologies to Pakistan have also been conveyed to the concerned countries.

(f) The Chinese Government claims that such transfer amount only to legitimate "peaceful nuclear cooperation".

(g) Government of India is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

[Translation]

Coal Permits

508 SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) the names of the persons to whom coal permits were issued during the last three years alongwith the quantity and quality of the coal, State-wise;

(b) the details of rates of permit issued according to the quality of coal; and

(c) the rules laid-down to issue these permits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c) There is no system of issue of coal permits and no such